

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 3. This attached sheet replaces the original sheet including Figure 3.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants are submitting the present Amendment without prejudice to the subsequent prosecution of claims to some or all of the subject matter which might be disclaimed by virtue of this paper, and explicitly reserves the right to pursue some or all of such subject matter, in Divisional or Continuation Applications.

I. CLAIM STATUS AND AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application when last examined. Claim 1 stands rejected. Claim 2 was objected to. Claim 3 was indicated as allowed. Applicants appreciate the Office's indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-3 have been amended.

Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found in the disclosure, for example, at page 3, lines 3-9 and in original claims 1 and 3.

Claim 2 is rewritten to independent form.

Other minor editorial revisions have been made to the claims to better conform to U.S. claim form. Such revisions are non-substantive and not intended to narrow the scope of protection.

No new matter has been added by the above claim amendments.

Applicants note that the amended claims encompass subject matter already considered by the Office in the instant Office Action. Accordingly, if the next Office Action on the merits includes a new rejection of one or more claims, the Action must be non-final.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful examination of this case, and respectfully request reexamination and reconsideration of the case, as amended. Below Applicants address the rejections levied in the Office Action, and explain why the rejections are not applicable to the pending claims as amended.

II. OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS

On page 2 of the Action, the Office objects to Figure 3. The attached revised Figure 3 renders the objection moot. Withdrawal of the objection is therefore solicited.

III. ANTICIPATION REJECTION

On pages 2-3 of the Action, claim 1 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by BICKLEY. (U.S. 5,152,005). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

To anticipate a claim, a cited prior art reference must disclose or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention. See, M.P.E.P. § 2131.

In the instant case, amended claim 1 recites: "at least one band elimination filter, at an elimination frequency of said at least one band elimination filter, (i) reflects a portion of signals generated from a corresponding one of said adjacent two oscillators to a corresponding one of said adjacent two oscillators in phase, and (ii) leaks another portion of the signals generated from the corresponding oscillators in opposite phase." Applicants respectfully submit that BICKLEY fails to disclose or suggest this novel feature of amended claim 1.

On page 3 of the Action, it was indicated that "[t]he reference by Bickley, see abstract figure, shows an array of oscillators (including VCO's 98,164) that are serially connected with at least one band pass filter (136) disposed between oscillator systems." However, such a description in no way discloses or suggests a band elimination filter that "(i) reflects a portion of signals generated from a corresponding one of said adjacent two oscillators to a corresponding one of said adjacent two oscillators in phase, and (ii) leaks another portion of the signals generated from the corresponding oscillators in opposite phase" as required in claim 1.

Further, it is noted that amended claim 1 now incorporates an allowable feature found in claim 3.

For these reasons, it is clear that BICKLEY fails to disclose or suggest each and every element of claim 1. Thus,

BICKLEY cannot anticipate claim 1, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

IV. CLAIM OBJECTIONS AND INDICATION OF ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

On page 3 of the Action, claim 2 was objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The present amendment renders the objection moot by revising claim 2 to independent form.

V. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is hereby requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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JW/lrs

APPENDIX:

The Appendix includes the following item(s):

X - a Replacement Sheet for Figure 3 of the drawings